



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

30 North Market Street, Third Floor Frederick, Maryland 21701 (301) 600-1147



CASE NO. CR 21-05 NOMINATION TO COUNTY REGISTER STAFF REPORT

SUMMARY

Property: Adam Koogle House
3120 Old National Pike, Middletown

Applicant: Mark G. Lancaster

Public Hearing for consideration of placing the property located at 3120 Old National Pike, Adam Koogle House, on the Frederick County Register of Historic Places. Submitted by Mark G. Lancaster, property owner of record.

The public hearing for the designation to the Frederick County Register of Historic Places will be held at 7:00 p.m., or thereafter, on August 4, 2021.



Fig. 1: Subject Property

DESIGNATION STATUS

The property is listed as a contributing structure in the Spoolsville Survey District on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) under survey number F-4-44. The property contains the historic house, a brick outbuilding, and a non-contributing garage. The property encompasses 3.84 acres of land.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

A completed County Register nomination form, the MIHP form, a map, and photographs were submitted. Staff assisted in writing the architectural and historical significance description.

SITE VISITS

Site visit dates are scheduled for July 24 or July 31, between 10 and 1 p.m. each day. Commissioners who cannot attend any of these dates are urged to familiarize themselves with the exterior on their own time.

REVIEW CONSIDERATIONS

1) Analysis

The architectural and historical significance of the Adam Koogle House is documented in the supporting materials. The house embodies characteristics of rural vernacular farm houses and is associated with early industrial and transportation history as well as associated with the Civil War just prior to the Battle of South Mountain. Based on the information provided, Staff finds the property would be eligible for listing under Criteria 6B(1A), 6B(1B), and 6B(2A).

2) History Summary

The Adam Koogle House was built circa 1830 by John Magruder. A one-story shed addition was added to the rear of the property in circa 1950. The property is located to the east of the intersection of Old Hagerstown Road and Old National Pike, one mile west of Middletown.

The Adam Koogle House is a primary contributing resource to the Spoolsville Survey District, a rural industrial community established about 1800 around the Bowlus Flour Mill that extended along the Old Hagerstown Road to Old National Pike. Adam Koogle purchased the property in 1847 and within three years was working as a wheelwright in the wagon shop that formerly was located on the property. He maintained the property until his death in 1892, working as a wheelwright for the majority of his time at the property. His son Thomas continued living on the farm until his death in 1910. By then, the property had sold out of the family and

throughout the 20th century it was sold several more times before the current owner purchased the property in 1990.

During Adam Koogle's ownership, Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart utilized the house as his headquarters prior to the Battle of South Mountain in 1862. With the Union army in pursuit, General Stuart ordered the covered bridge that crossed Little Catocin Creek near the Koogle house to be burned down. While this action did not stop the Union army from finally reaching and engaging with the Confederates in the Battle of South Mountain on September 14, 1862, it most likely slowed them down and delayed the inevitable battle.

3) Historic, Archaeological, and Cultural Significance Criteria

The property would be eligible for listing under this category for meeting criteria 6B(1A) and 6B(1B), as outlined in Chapter 1-23-6B(1) of the Frederick County Code:

- 6B(1A): *The property has significant character, interest, or value as part of development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the county, state, or nation.*
- 6B(1B): *The property is the site of an historic event.*

The property has significant character, interest, and value in the development and heritage of the county for its association with the industrial development of Spoolsville and with the National Pike. The property contained a wagon shop, an essential service along the National Pike to repair the wagon wheels needed to transport goods on the wagons travelling along the pike. In addition to the wagon shop in the vicinity, there was also a blacksmith shop and the milling operation. These commercial operations spurred the residential development of Spoolsville to house the mill workers and others associated with the commercial operations in existence.

The National Pike was an important and heavily traveled turnpike that extended from Baltimore through Frederick County to the west. It provided farmers and merchants a route to transport their goods to other markets and import goods for their businesses and farms. Several towns and villages flourished with the enhancements made to the road which increased the traffic on the road. Wheelwrights and blacksmith shops as well as taverns were important services along the pike. Wheelwrights would build and repair wooden wagon and stagecoach wheels. These wheels would break or get damaged from the ruts and other obstructions on the road.

The property is also significant for its association with the Civil War and a specific event that occurred on the property prior to the Battle of South Mountain. Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart utilized the Koogle house as a headquarters as the Confederate army was withdrawing from Frederick during the Maryland Campaign in September of 1862. As the Union army under General McClellan advanced, Stuart ordered the "Koogle Bridge" to be burnt down to slow the Union army. The burning of the wooden covered bridge also burnt Koogle's barn, hay shed, and other agricultural outbuildings nearby. Additionally, the house had cannon shells penetrate

through the chimney and parlor wall as the Union troops skirmished with Confederates around Middletown and the surrounding area.

4) Architectural and Design Significance Criteria

The property is also eligible under this category for meeting criteria 6B(2A) as outlined in Chapter 1-23-6B(2) of Frederick County Code:

- 6B(2A): *The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or architecture.*

The Adam Koogle House is an example of a vernacular, rural farm dwelling in mid-Maryland characterized by the two-story porch, rear ell wing, interior end chimneys, and side-gabled roof. The brick structure is built with common bond brick pattern, a symmetrical façade, and original six-over-six windows. The brick outbuilding located to the northwest of the property illustrates the pattern of domestic outbuildings located in close proximity to the main house.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Adam Koogle House for designation to the Frederick County Register of Historic Places pursuant to Criterion 6B(1A), 6B(1B), and 6B(2A) as described in Section 1-23-6B of the County Code.

If the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) recommends the property for local designation, the HPC will submit a letter of recommendation to the County Council for final action.